



NEWS RELEASE

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

BUILDING STRONG®

For Immediate Release: NR10-022
March 22, 2010

Contact: Clay Church, 817-886-1314
Clayton.A.Church@usace.army.mil

New camping reservation policies announced for Sam Rayburn Reservoir

FORT WORTH, Texas – The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will begin implementing new camping reservation policies on April 1, at all Corps operated campgrounds on Sam Rayburn Reservoir.

On April 1, campers will be able to book up to the minute reservations. The four days advanced notice previously required to make advanced reservations will no longer be in place. This policy change will allow campers to make same day reservations prior to their arrival. Up-to-the-minute reservations will be made available on a trial basis over the next year.

Also as of April 1, all campsites will be reservable in advance through the National Recreation Reservation Service. Previously sites designated as walk-in or first-come-first-serve sites were retained at each park. These sites will now be made available for advanced reservations. A limited number of sites throughout the parks will remain non-reservable (closed) for use as back up sites in case of campsite issues during a visitor's stay. During the winter season, a limited number of sites at Twin Dikes, Mill Creek, and San Augustine Parks will be retained to allow for extended stay winter campers.

These changes to the previous camping reservation policy come after many requests from the camping public. With the new campground reservation computer program Outdoor Recreation Management Suite in place for the past two seasons, the new policies are now possible through the National Recreation Reservation Service.

With the goal of better customer service, the camping customers at Sam Rayburn Reservoir should experience many benefits from the new policies. Customers will now be able to book last minute reservations. Each site will be available for reservations and customers should be able to book their favorite site allowing a reservation in place before they arrive. Through the improved reservation program the customers will experience better service at the park site with a faster check-in time and shorter lines at the gatehouse. The new policies also help to better manage the park facilities, allowing for scheduling campsite cleaning and maintenance prior to the customers arrival time.

Campers can make reservations through the National Recreation Reservation Service one of three ways: going online and booking a site at www.recreation.gov, calling the reservation service toll free at 1-877-444-6777, or at the park site where they wish to stay by visiting the gatehouse attendant.

Additional information is available at <http://www.swf-wc.usace.army.mil/samray/index.asp> or by calling the Sam Rayburn Project Office at 409-384-5716.